Migration from Northern Ireland into Colonial Georgia

by Donna Newman, CG

Relatively few land grants were issued in Colonial Georgia between its inception under a charter in 1732 and the surrendering of the charter in 1752, when Georgia became a Royal province. But under the new colonial government, a generous headright system was implemented similar to what was used in other Southern colonies to lure new settlers.[1]

Under this system, an applicant submitted his petition for land to the Governor and Council at a monthly "Land Day" meeting, stating how many were in his family (including wife, children, slaves and indentured servants) and describing the number of acres he wanted, as well as where they were located. A head of family was entitled to 100 acres in his own right plus 50 acres for each dependent. He did not have to take out all of the land for which he qualified at one time; he could petition for more land as his family grew.[2] In first petitions for land the applicant often stated how long he had been in the province, sometimes where he had come from and occasionally even when and how he came.

The minutes of these Land Day meetings are compiled in *Proceedings and Minutes of the Governor and Council*, volumes VII through XII of *The Colonial Records of the State of Georgia*. Like the copies in the Public Records Office in London from which they were reconstructed, they are incomplete,[3] with missing early petitions being one of the most inconvenient losses. Even so, used in conjunction with contemporaneous news items, it is possible to identify some of the Protestant settlers from Northern Ireland who were attracted by the offer of land. Many emigrated between 1767 and 1772 and settled in Queensborough Township. In some cases, it is even possible to determine when they arrived and the ships that brought them.

Queensborough Township

In January 1765, on the petition of Lachlan McGillivray, John Rae, and George Galphin, the Governor and Council ordered that 50,000 acres of land be laid out "for the Use and Benefit of the Settlers intended to be

1. Farris W. Cadle, *Georgia Land Surveying History and Law* (Athens, GA: The Univ. of Georgia Press, 1991), pp. 28, 34.
2. Cadle, 31-33.
3. Allen D. Candler, compiler, *The Colonial Records of the State of Georgia*, 26 vols. (Atlanta: The Franklin-Turner Company, 1904–1916), digitized ebooks on FamilySearch.org; Vol. I, pp. 3-10, especially 7.

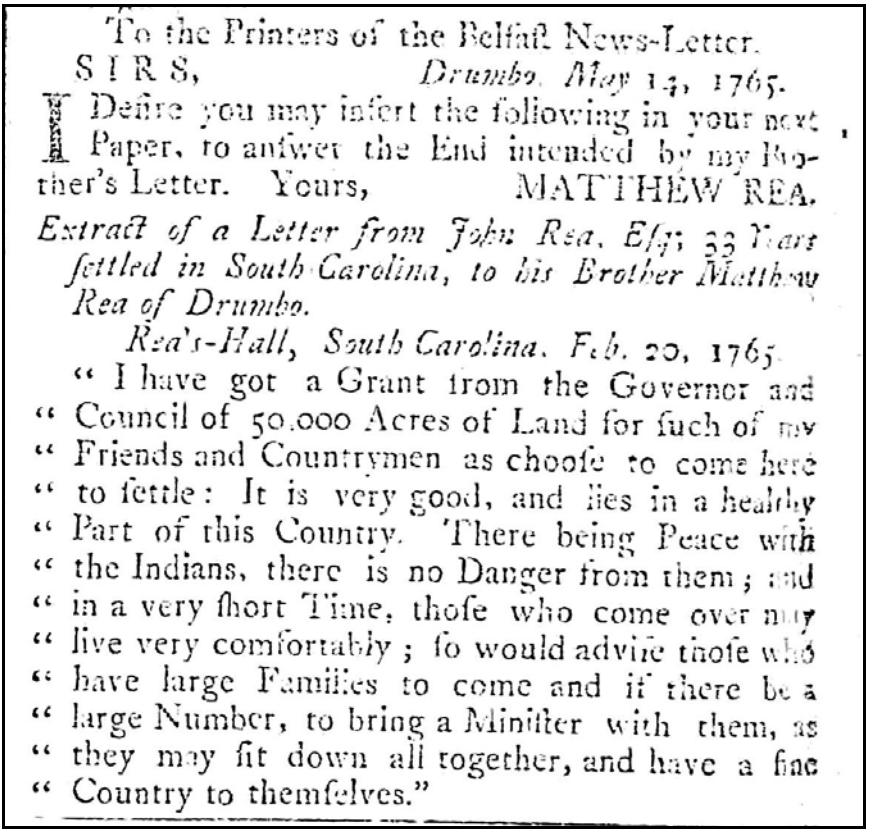
brought from Ireland by and through the Means and Interest of the Petitioners."[4] The reserve that was subsequently laid out was known as the "Irish Settlement" or "Irish Tract" and was later named Queensborough Township.

Now extinct, it was situated in the fork of Lambert's Creek and the Great Ogeechee River[5] near present-day Louisville, Georgia, and it became part of Jefferson County in 1796.[6]

A letter dated 20 February 1765 was published in a Belfast, Ireland newspaper "from John Rea, Esqr., 33 Years settled in South-Carolina to his Brother Matthew Rea of Drumbo" which informed him of the land grant in Georgia and encouraged his fellow countrymen to migrate there. A second letter published later that year described the geography, climate, and economic opportunities available to those who brought their families to Georgia.[7] In support of these efforts, the General Assembly passed an Act in March 1768 authorizing £1,815 sterling to be appropriated to assist the new settlers,[8] whose ship passage to Savannah would be paid and who would be exempt from taxes on their land for 10 years.[9]

The Act was vetoed by King George III, but a group of settlers arrived in Savannah in December 1768 aboard the *Prince George*.[10] Believed to be the first ship to sail between Northern Ireland and Georgia,[11] it sailed from Belfast on about the 20th of September[12] and "Entered Inwards at the

4. Candler, Vol. IX, pp. 269–270, 1 January 1765.
5. Charles C. Jones, *The History of Georgia*, Vol. II*: Revolution-ary Epoch* (Boston: Houghton, Mifflin and Co., 1883), pp. 120–121.
6. Robert Scott Davis, Jr. and Silas Emmett Lucas, Jr., *The Families of Burke County, Georgia, 1755–1855: a Census* (1981; reprint, Easley, S.C.: Southern Historical Press, 1987), p. 90.
7. *The Belfast News-Letter and General Advertiser*, 17 May 1765, p. 1, col. 3; and 6 September 1765, p.3, col. 1; consulted as "Belfast, Northern Ireland, *The Belfast Newsletter* (Birth, Marriage and Death Notices), 1738–1925," digital image, Ancestry.com. All *Belfast News-Letter* items cited in this report were retrieved from this collection between 20 June and 13 July 2020.
8. Candler, Vol. X, pp. 671–672.
9. Albert M. Hillhouse, *A History of Burke County, Georgia, 1777-1950* (Swainsboro, GA: Magnolia Press, 1985), pp. 6–7. Also, *The Belfast News-Letter*, 10 June 1768, p. 1, col. 1.
10. The King later approved the 10-year exemption from Quit Rents for the settlers of both Queensborough and Wrightsborough, as reported by the Governor to the Council in December 1769, Vol. X, p. 981.
11. R.J. Dickson, *Ulster Emigration to Colonial America, 1718–1775* (1966; reprint, Omagh, Co. Tyrone: Graham & Sons, 1976), p. 167, including Note 4. According to Dickson, there was no apparent trade established between Northern Ireland and Georgia before 1768 when the *Prince George* was advertised in the *Belfast News-Letter*, and a review of shipping news in the Belfast and Savannah newspapers supports his claim.
12. *The Belfast News-Letter*, 6 September 1768, 2, col. 3.



To the Printers of the Belfast News-Letter.

SIRS, *Drumbo, May 14, 1765.*

I Desire you may insert the following in your next Paper, to answer the End intended by my Brother's Letter. Yours, MATTHEW REA.

Extract of a Letter from John Rea, Esq; 33 Years settled in South Carolina, to his Brother Matthew Rea of Drumbo.

Rea's-Hall, South Carolina, Feb. 20, 1765.

" I have got a Grant from the Governor and " Council of 50,000 Acres of Land for such of my " Friends and Countrymen as chooſe to come here " to ſettle: It is very good, and lies in a healthy " Part of this Country. There being Peace with " the Indians, there is no Danger from them; and " in a very ſhort Time, thoſe who come over may " live very comfortably; ſo would adviſe thoſe who " have large Families to come and if there be a " large Number, to bring a Miniſter with them, as " they may ſit down all together, and have a fine " Country to themſelves."

This portion of a longer letter by John Rea, Esqr., to his brother Matthew Rea of Drumbo, Northern Ireland, explained about the Georgia grant of 50,000 acres to be divided among Protestant Irish settlers. It was published in the Belfast News-Letter *newspaper, 17 May 1765, page 1, column 1, found on Newspapers.com.*

Custom-House" in Savannah on the 5th of December.[13] The Governor reported on the arrival of these Protestant families from Ireland, 107 persons in all, when he met with his Council on December 9th. The Council ruled that since they had come at the inducement of Georgia's colonial government, the necessary monies would be expended "for Public Services, to be applied to the use and encouragement of the persons now come in" and recuperated via the next tax bill.[14]

Not all of the new immigrants took up their land in Queensborough, nor

13. *Georgia Gazette (Savannah, Ga.)*, 7 December 1768, p. 3, col. 1, GenealogyBank.com (accessed 14 May 2017).
14. Candler, Vol. X, pp. 671-672.

were those who arrived in late 1768 the first to claim land there.[15] With one exception, a grant in Queensborough signified the grantee's origins. When Galphin and Rae petitioned for an extension on the reserve in March 1768, it was granted with the stipulation that Quakers who were migrating into the colony and choosing to settle there should be accommodated; otherwise "Lambtons big Creek is to be reserved intirely [*sic*] for the Irish Settlement."[16]

Piecing it together

There is no single source identifying who came to Colonial Georgia from Northern Ireland and how and when they came, but some of this information can be found in official records and a handful of news items.

That first petitions were not found for many known Queensborough landowners is unsurprising, given the obvious shortcomings in the records for this period. There are no Land Day minutes for January 1769, incomplete minutes for February 1769, and no minutes for the first three months of 1770.[17] Then, beginning in May 1772, only the number of grants was noted. No information is recorded about the petitioners, their petitions or whose grants were signed by the Governor at that Land Day meeting. In some cases, the earliest mention of an individual in these records is his request for an extension because the allotted seven months had lapsed, but at least from this the latest date by which the original petition was submitted to the Council can be calculated. In other cases, only a survey and/or grant date of Queensborough land is known.[18]

Earliest arrivals

In April 1767, three applicants submitted petitions for tracts in the "reserved Land at Ogechee upon the Waters at Lambert's big Creek," stating that they had come from Ireland "on a Publication being made of a Quantity of Land being reserved to be laid out in a Township for Families to be brought from thence."[19]

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15. Hillhouse, *A History of Burke County, Georgia*, 7; also, Davis Jr. and Lucas Jr., *The Families of Burke County, Georgia, 1755–1855*, p. 90.
16. Candler, Vol. X, p. 435, 1 March 1768.
17. Candler, Vol. X, p. 671 and the top of p. 672 are December 1768 minutes and concern the arrival of the ship carrying 107 passengers from Northern Ireland. Starting midway on p. 672 and without the usual introduction to the Council minutes that name the members present is recorded "Continuation of the Proceedings in Council on Tuesday the Seventh Day of February 1769, from Book X." The last minutes in Volume X are for 5 December 1769 and the first minutes in Volume XI are for 3 April 1770.
18. Ben W. Fortson, Jr., and Pat Bryant, *English Crown Grants in St. George Parish in Georgia, 1755–1775* (Atlanta, GA: State Printing Office, 1974), p. v. These records were compiled from extant grant and survey records, but only one in four survey plats has survived.
19. Candler, Vol. X, pp. 135–136, 7 April 1767.

Table 1 [20]

Petitions for land in Queensborough, April 1767		
Name	*Land requested*	*Dependents reported*
William Crossley	850 acres	wife, 4 children, 10 slaves
David Holmes	150 acres	1 slave
John Parkinson	100 acres	

There was another group of petitioners in February 1768: Samuel Frink (identified as a clerk), Edward Barnard, John Tinkler, William Fraser, and John Shick, "severally Praying for Tracts of Land out of the Land laid out and reserved on Ogechee for the Irish Township."[21] The Council ordered the petitions be postponed until the next Land Day. However, no later petitions for land in Queensborough were found for them, nor do their names appear in the various sources that identify landowners in St. George Parish.[22]

The Ship *Prince George*, 1768

In July 1768, Matthew Rea published a notice in *The Belfast News-Letter* that he and William Beatty would have "a stout Ship" ready to sail to Savannah on September 1st. In the same newspaper was a notice that the *Prince George*, Robert Beatty, Master, would sail for Philadelphia on August 20th. By the next issue of the paper, the *Prince George* had been chartered by Rea and Beatty, with Capt. Robert Beatty still at the helm. As previously noted, it was scheduled to sail on September 20th.[23]

A notice in the *Georgia Gazette* on 7 December 1768 states that "The same day [Friday] arrived the ship *Prince George*, Capt. Robert Beatty, from Belfast, with the Rev. Mr. David McKay, who is appointed Pastor of the Williamsburgh Congregation, South Carolina, also 114 settlers for this province" and includes a letter of thanks to Capt. Beatty signed in the name of the passengers by David McKay, Clotworthy Robson, and Quintin

20. Candler, Vol. X, pp. 135–136, 7 April 1767.
21. Candler, Vol. X, pp. 425, 2 February 1768.
22. Fortson and Bryant, *English Crown Grants in St. George Parish*; Eve B. Weeks and Robert S. Lowery, *Georgia Land Owners' Memorials, 1758-1776*; Wm H. Dumont, "Landowners St. George's Parrish, Georgia"; Daniel Nathan Crumpton, *Burke County, Georgia Land Records*, especially pp. 468–486, plotted maps of English Crown grants in Queensborough and environs from 1768–1774 drawn by Delbert M. Little in the 1970s.
23. *The Belfast News-Letter*, 22 July 1768, p. 4, col. 1, and 29 July 1768, p. 2, col. 3.

Pooler.[24]

Quintin Pooler petitioned the land council in March 1769 for 150 acres and a lot in Queensborough Township.[25] Clotworthy Robson was on a list of names from the February 1769 Council meeting for whom tracts were ordered to be laid out in "a Township On the Branches of the Great Ogechee River upon Lands some time reserved for that purpose."[26]

Inclusion on the list suggests that, like Robson, the individual came on the *Prince George*. This, though, is not conclusive, since he might have come earlier via another colonial port as the three April 1767 petitioners obviously did.

Most of the names on this list were also on the list of "Lots Granted to the Settlers of Queensborough in St. George's Parish" in the July 1770 land council minutes.[27]

24. "Savannah, December 7," *Georgia Gazette (Savannah, Ga.)*, 7 December 1768 [Wednesday], p. 2, col. 2, digital image, GenealogyBank.com: accessed 14 May 2017. This notice gives a different date of arrival from what was reported in the shipping news section of the same paper (Dec. 2nd vs. Dec. 5th) and a different number of passengers from what the Governor reported to the Council (114 vs. 107).
25. Candler, Vol. X, p. 706, 7 March 1769; the number of acres suggests Pooler had one dependent, but none were identified in the petition.
26. Candler, Vol. X, pp. 696–698, 20 February 1769.
27. Candler, Vol. XI, p. 85, 3 July 1770.

Table 2 [28]

Land grants list 2/20/1769			**Town lots list 7/3/1770**
Name	*Acres*	*Dependents**	*Lot*
John Bartholomew	100		69
Thomas Beatty	150	1	16
Alexander Beggs	100		68 (as Bags)
James Blair	100		47
Thomas Bongridge	150	1	not in list
John Brown	200	2	46
John Bryant	100		not in list
Robert Cooper	450	7	not in list
Robert Dunkan	100		not in list
James Fleming	100		not in list
Samuel Fleming	350	5	66
Robert Girvin	400	6	29 (as Gervin)
David Greer	100		52
James Haddin	250	3	8 (as Haden)
William Harding	100		56
John Ingram	400	6	not in list
John Kennedy	250	3	7
Matthew Lyle	100		14 (as Lysle)
Patrick Mackay	100		not in list
William Mackay	100		not in list
John Martin	400	6	30
William McConchey	100		72 (as McConkey)
Patrick McCulloch	100		not in list
Adam McIlroy	150	1	45 (as McLervy)
James McKelvey	100		31 (as McCalvey)
Daniel McNeill	150	1	not in list
Andrew Moore	100		not in list
Matthew Moore	250	3	5
Adam Morrison	200	2	32 (as Morison)
John Morrison	100		15 (as Morison)
Clotworthy Robson	100		11 (as Clothworthy)
David Russell	400	6	13 (as Russel)
Robert Samson	100		not in list
Joseph Saunders	400	6	17
William Skelly	100		48
Walter Stephenson	200	2	34 (as Walker Stevens)

28. Candler, Vol. X, pp. 696–698, 20 February 1769; and *Vol. XI*, p. 85.

Land grants list 2/20/1769			**Town lots list 7/3/1770**
Name	*Acres*	*Dependents**	*Lot*
James Thompson	100		51
John Toland	250	3	not in list
Robert Warnock	150	1	50
In town lots list only			**Lot**
John Cary	N/A		2
Alexander Chesnut	N/A		3

* The number of dependents shown for each individual is implied from the number of acres he was granted and may be an undercount. The total number of individuals from this table, plus Quintin Pooler and his implied dependent, is 106 without Cary and Chestnut— and 118 with them.

John Cary and Alexander Chestnut were not found on this land grants list, but they petitioned the Council in November 1769. At that time, they submitted a certificate from the commissioners appointed to settle the Queensborough Township, asking to be granted land. John Cary had a wife, three sons, and two daughters; Alexander Chestnut had a wife and three children.[29]

The Ship *Hopewell*, 1769

The *Hopewell*, Thomas Ash, Master, was set to sail from Belfast to Savannah on 25 September 1769.[30] She arrived there either on the 2nd of December[31] or on the 28th of November as reported by an unidentified passenger to a relative back home. His letter was critical of John Rea, Savannah, and the Irishmen living in Queensborough, but full of praise for Capt. Ash for arranging transport to Charleston for him and 33 others.[32]

In October 1770, "Sundry Passengers who Arrived from Ireland in the Ship *Hopewell* Capt. Ash in December 1769" were granted an extension as the land had not yet been surveyed and the allotted time had elapsed.[33] These sundry passengers may have included five Queensborough grantees for whom no petitions have been found but who had surveys completed in November and December 1770: David Marin, 200 acres; Thomas McBride, 150 acres; John McCanlis, 200 acres; David McGown, 100 acres; and George

29. Candler, Vol. X, p. 927, 7 November 1769.
30. *The Belfast News-Letter*, 8 September 1769, p. 3, col. 3.
31. *Georgia Gazette*, 6 December 1769, p. 3, col. 1, Genealogy Bank.com (accessed 20 June 2020).
32. *The Belfast News-Letter*, 27 April 1770, p. 2, col. 2. The letter is dated Charlestown, 11 January 1770.
33. Candler, Vol. XI, p. 156, 2 October 1770.

Spires, 300 acres.[34]

In May 1771, petitioners Joseph Boyd, William Hadon, and William Read each said they had come from Ireland in the *Hopewell* with Capt. Ash in 1769. They had ordered 100 acres of land, but failed to take out the survey warrant and requested that a new survey be ordered.[35] From this it can be deduced that their original petitions were submitted no later than October 1770, but since they haven't been found it's likely they fell in the period between January and March 1770 for which Land Day minutes are missing.

John Marshall said in his November 1771 petition for 100 acres that he "arrived in the province sometime since from Ireland in the Ship *Hopewell*, Capt. Ash."[36] Thomas Ash, though, was Master of the *Hopewell* in both 1769 and 1770, and Marshall's petition could accommodate either of these arrival dates.

The Ship *Hopewell*, 1770

The *Hopewell* from Belfast to Charleston "cleared outwards" on 22 October 1770 and arrived in Charleston on the 30th of December according to the Belfast newspaper.[37]

At the Land Day meeting of 1 January 1771, land and town lots were granted to "Sundry Persons Just Arrived in the Province in the Ship *Hopewell* Thomas Ash Master from Belfast in Ireland." Detail about their dependents comes from their individual petitions on the same date.[38]

Table 3 [39]

Land grants and petitions, January 1771		
Name	*Acres*	*Dependents*
David Alexander	500	wife and 8 children
John Allen	400	wife and 5 children
Joseph Beatty	500	wife, 6 children and 1 servant
Patrick McGee	100	none

34. Fortson and Bryant, *English Crown Grants in St. George Parish*; pp. 125, 128, 129, 135 and 200.
35. Candler, Vol. XI, pp. 350–352, 7 May 1771.
36. Candler, Vol. XII, p. 99, 5 November 1771.
37. *The Belfast News-Letter*, 23 October 1770, p. 3, col. 1; and 19 March 1771, p. 2, col. 2. Inexplicably, the *South-Carolina and American General Gazette* for 30 December 1770 to 7 January 1771 reported that Thomas Ash arrived January 6th on the Ship *Belfast-Packet*, and the 31 January 1771 issue of the *South Carolina Gazette* reported that Thomas Ashe and the Ship *Hopewell* sailed for Georgia on January 28th. Also noteworthy is the timing of the *Hopewell* passengers' appearance at the January 1st land council meeting in Savannah if they had indeed only arrived in Charleston on December 30th.
38. Candler, Vol. XI, p. 227, and pp. 210–213.
39. Candler, Vol. XI, p. 227, and pp. 210–213.

Land grants and petitions, January 1771		
Name	*Acres*	*Dependents*
Robert Rodgers	450	wife and 6 children
James Rodgers	200	wife and 1 child
William Sampson	150	1 son (4 other children arriving soon)
William Skelly *	250	wife, 1 child and 1 servant

* A William Skelly was on the earlier list of February 1769 grantees (Table 2), but this could be the same man, supposing that he came first to secure a homestead, then went back to Ireland for his family and returned with them on the *Hopewell*. If such is the case, he should have qualified for 150 acres for his three dependents here since he had already been granted land on his own headrights. The 250 acres was surveyed on 14 February 1771, but no grant was found. There is also a William Shelly who was granted 200 acres in Queensborough Township in July 1774, and this might be the same man.

The Ship *Britannia*, 1771-1772

The *Britannia*, James Clendinen, Master, sailed from Belfast to Savannah on 28 October 1771 with 200 passengers "going to his Majesty's Bounty Lands in Queensborough."[40] No ship arrival notice has been found. Nevertheless, a letter in praise of the captain was published in the Belfast newspaper, signed by some of the passengers and dated Savannah, 18 January 1772.[41]

Most of the same names also appear in the Land Day minutes for 3 March 1772, "the Names of the Several persons who lately arrived in this province in the Ship *Brittania*, James Clindinon Master." This list gives the total as 217 persons.[42]

40. *The Belfast News-Letter*, 1 November 1771, p. 2, col. 3.
41. *Belfast News-Letter*, 13 March 1772, p. 2, col. 2.
42. Candler, Vol. XII, pp. 253–254.

Table 4 [43]

***Britannia* passengers and dependents, March 1772**		
Name	*Dependents*	*Name on letter, if different*
John Baggs		as Beggs
Matthew Barr		
Samuel Barron	wife, 1 child	
Michael Beally	wife, 2 children	as Beatty
James Black	wife, 2 children, 5 servants	
James Breckinrig	wife, 1 child	as Brackenridge
William Brown		
John Busby	wife, 1 child, 1 servant	not on letter
John Campbell	wife, 5 children	
John Chambers	wife, 6 children	
George Cook	wife, 2 children	as Cork
John Crozier	wife, 1 child, 1 servant	
John Dickson	wife, 1 child	
John Fenlay	wife, 3 children	not on letter
Richard Fleeting	wife, 1 child	
John Fulton	wife, 2 children, 2 servants	
John Gamboll	5 children	as Gamble
John Gilmore	wife	as Gillmore
Robert Hanna	wife	
William Hanna	wife, 2 children	
James Harris	wife, 3 children	
James Hogg	wife, 4 children	not on letter
Henry Hurd	wife, 1 child	
David Irwin	wife	
Isabella Irwin	8 daughters	as Isabel Erwin
Joseph Johnson		
Henry Lewis	wife	
Isaac Loremore		as Lorrimore
Samuel Little	wife, 4 children	
Thomas Little	wife, 5 children	
John Martin		not on letter
Samuel McAllister		as McAlister
James McCelvey	wife	as McKelvey
John McClinigan	wife	not on letter

43. Candler, Vol. XII, pp. 253–254.

***Britannia* passengers and dependents, March 1772**		
Name	*Dependents*	*Name on letter, if different*
Elizabeth McClinigan		not on letter
William McCreery	wife, 1 child	not on letter
James McCroan	wife	as McCrone
Thomas McCroan	wife, 1 child	as McCrone
John McGee		as Magee
Phelix McGee		as Phil. Magee
James McMichan	wife, 3 children	as McMahon
Moses McMichan		not on letter
Robert Miller	wife, 2 children	
John Mineely	wife, 5 children	as McNeilly
David Morrow	wife, 2 children	as Morow
Francis Mountain	wife, 3 children	
John Murdock	wife, 2 children	as Murdoch
William Murray	1 servant	
Arthur O'Neal		as O'Neill
John Peel		as Peill
Richard Peel	wife, 1 child	
Robert Rodgers		
Edward Rogers	wife, 1 child	
John Scott	wife, 4 children	
John Shaw		
James Simpson	wife	
Margaret Sloan		not on letter
Edward Thompson	wife, 3 children	
George Thompson		as Thomson
John Todd		not on letter
William Tonkin		not on letter*
Ester Tweedy	4 children, 1 servant	as Esther
John Wilson	wife, 4 children	
Seb Witherup		as Zabulon
Thomas Wolfington	wife, 4 children	as Wolfenden

* Nothing further has been found on William Tonkin. However, a William Jenkin petitioned for 100 acres on 7 April 1772, and stated he had lately arrived from Ireland in the ship *Britannia*, James Clindinen, Master.

There were six names on the passengers' letter that were not named in the above minutes. Of these, nothing further has been found on John Ballantine, Jr., John Brisben, or Andrew McCombe. Records in the names

of John Anderson, James Finlay, and James Thompson suggest they may have been earlier arrivals who were returning to the province after having traveled back to Ireland.[44]

The challenge going forward

The above represents what this compiler has been able to derive from the cited sources but there are many other Queensborough grantees for whom information has not been found to determine how and when they came to the colony. In particular, the lack of petitions for 1774 and 1775 grantees suggest they fell in the post-April 1772 period. Some of these grantees may not have been new immigrants at all, but rather dependents of earlier arrivals, now come of age. Were William and Hugh Alexander, for example, granted 100 acres each in September 1774,[45] among the eight children reported by David Alexander when he arrived aboard the *Hopewell* in December 1770?

Sources vary on the total number of ships and immigrants that came to Savannah from Northern Ireland. Hillhouse states that four more ships "with varied numbers" came between December 1769 and December 1774;[46] this would include the *Britannia* in late 1771. Dickson does not list either of the *Hopewell* voyages, but does name two other ships that reportedly sailed from Belfast to Savannah, the *Elizabeth* in 1771, and the *Prince of Wales* in 1773 with 200 passengers.[47]

44. A John Anderson had land in St. George Parish surveyed in April 1767 (*English Crown Grants*, 4); a James Finlay entered a caveat on land granted to Joseph Marshall in September 1770 (Candler, Vol. XI, p. 123); and a James Thompson is on the February 1769 list of settlers (Table 2).

45. Fortson and Bryant, *English Crown Grants in St. George Parish*, pp. 1, 2.

46. Hillhouse, *A History of Burke County, Georgia*, p. 7.

47. Dickson, *Ulster Emigration to Colonial America, 1718–1775*, pp. 234–237. The source cited for the *Prince of Wales* is the 8 November 1773 issue of the *Pennsylvania Gazette*, which does not appear to exist. Issues were found for November 3, 10, 17 and 24, and in the November 3rd issue (p. 3, col. 1) it was reported that the *Prince of Wales*, Captain Morrison, had arrived at Baltimore from Londonderry with 200 passengers.

The Irish Emigration Database lists only the *Britannia* and the *Elizabeth* between 1771 and 1773,[48] and sail notices published in *The Belfast News-Letter* show the following ships as originally bound for Savannah in 1773 and 1774, whatever their ultimate destination turned out to be:

- The *Waddell*, Belfast to Savannah and Charlestown, November 1773
- The *Jupiter*, Larne to Savannah, Charlestown and Baltimore, May 1774
- The *Elliott*, Newry to Charlestown and Savannah, October 1774
- The *Liberty and Property*, Belfast to Charlestown and Savannah, October 1774
- The *Minerva*, Larne to Charlestown and Savannah, December 1774

More research and reconciliation of conflicting reports is needed to identify conclusively all of the ships that brought settlers from Northern Ireland on the promise of land in Queensborough Township, whether or not the passengers' names are ever known.

Donna Newman grew up on military bases and has roots in Georgia dating back to the 1760s. She has a master's degree in clinical psychology and worked with intellectually impaired individuals, as well as with children in foster care, for 40 years. She holds the Certified Genealogist credential and has been involved in genealogical pursuits since the 1980s.

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48. Irish Emigration Database (IED), *Documenting Ireland: Parliament, People and Migration* (http://www.dippam.ac.uk/: 2012), specifically, "List of Ships from Various Ports in Ireland to America." Clendenen is shown as the master of the *Britannia* with 350 passengers in October 1771 (vs. 200 or 217 passengers cited in the *Belfast News-Letter* and Candler, *The Colonial Records*, respectively); and Dd. Brown as the master of the *Elizabeth* with 240 passengers in October 1772.